

...A Page Devoted to the Interests and Occupations of Women...

The Married People Who Go Separate Ways

"I wonder why it is," said one woman to another in a recent chapter of intercourse over the teacups, "I wonder why it is that I never see that pretty young Mrs. Blank anywhere with her husband. She is so attractive that I should think her husband would be afraid to leave her so entirely independent of his attentions, as he evidently does. Do you know them? What can the trouble be?"

"Oh, nothing," answered the fact that they have agreed that she shall go her way and that he prefers his own, which is not the society way," answered the other woman, in a matter of fact tone. "Beyond agreeing to disagree," she added carelessly, "they are good enough friends on a par with the rest of their circle. She has her bridge and her theatre parties and he has his club," and she shrugged her graceful shoulders as if to intimate that having reached such a conclusion, there was nothing more to be expected.

Excuses Men Make.
And yet there is not a woman in the world of genuinely womanly nature that does not comprehend the tragedy of such domestic relations. It brings the realization that few men feel as they should the responsibility of looking after the way in which a wife finds her happiness. Men do not hesitate to assert openly that all of their time and work is expended in an effort to make a living and to pay bills which the demands of their womankind render necessary. But that the bills are so big arises, in the beginning, from the lack of a man's interest in home details. They grow bigger because of silliness over their settlement rather than kindly and gentle explanations, which would call a woman's love into play as a factor and awaken her eagerness in the way of helpfulness and self-sacrifice.

Love Without Expression.
George Eliot is responsible as the woman who said: "I have long since lost faith in a love that has ceased to express itself." And George Eliot put the feeling of other women into words when she thus gave utterance to the bitterness aroused daily by a sense of what has been missed in life, a bitterness that arms women with reserve and pride and starts them to beating out a pathway for themselves through the "wilderness of life's injustices."

In the assets of a woman may be a husband who has the restrictions of home, and who is too much at variance with society not to veto the idea of appearing in it with his wife, who never notices his wife's looks, who scores her severely over the adjustment of her accounts, who never thinks of asking her plans for the day and evening, or inviting her to share his amusements and interests.

If the wife of such a man is intelligent, she generally, sooner or later, asks herself if she is called on to be satisfied with such a lack of conjugal happiness. If she decides that she is not, she generally looks around and about her for some form of compensation, and if she is a woman of charm and beauty, no one can foresee from what dangerous or insidious source may come the tenderness and approval which she has longed for in vain and failed to receive, where it should have been given.

Woman Needs Coat of Mail.
A woman needs to be endowed with uncommon sense and divine steadfastness of purpose, to be subjected to constant slights at her husband's hands, and yet to be encased in a coat of mail that is proof against unexpected emergencies and temptations. But for the fact, indeed, that women have much greater strength of power of resistance, society would be in a far more chaotic condition than it is. Women are hedged about with conventionalities, happily for them, but under any conditions there is in the sex a nature leaning to what is pure and good, an inclination that lifts them to a clearer atmosphere and enables them to discern the end from the beginning, as men seldom or never do.

When, therefore, a woman goes outside the natural sphere of her home and her affections, the husband, in nine cases out of ten, is to blame in driving her to find alleviation for the crucial dissension that marks the difference between the gallant lover and the indifferent married man. If a husband were what he should be, his wife would not be leaving him. Nor love and fidelity of another man. Nor does she invariably desire it, but it is one of the commonest dangers assailing a woman, especially a pretty one, who is trying to fill an empty nest, in her heart, where her husband's image ought to be, with other interests, other amusements.

The Wise Man.
That husband, then, is a wise man who, when he discards that his wife has started out to live her own life in her own way, makes it the business of his life to see that she doesn't do it. And if the husband is persistent enough in interposing between his wife and her pursuit of an affectionate devotion, the chances are that she will be glad to renounce her intention for the sake of being simply happy.

ALICE M. TYLER.

Children Observe Closely

Children are sharp observers, and it behooves mothers to be strictly keep their word if they would teach their children to keep theirs. A case in point occurred to the writer recently.

A lady with two little girls was passing one evening at 8 o'clock on the piazza, and I called them to come in. She replied:

"I will when I come back."

As it got late I went inside. Soon the bell rang and I admitted them.

"She laughed," she said, "and was just obliged to come in, for I promised the children I would; but it seemed to me that I was excused from my promise because you had gone in, and was passing the entrance when they both reminded me with, 'Why, mama, you said you would call!'"

A few moments sufficed, and she hurried them home to bed.

Referring to the matter afterwards, I asked, "Don't you find it inconvenient to strictly keep your word to the children sometimes?"

"Yes, very. I am careful, however, not to promise what I think I may not be able to fulfill. Sometimes unexpected circumstances will conspire to prevent. In that case, I find the children are amenable to reason, and they see why I cannot; and I ask them to excuse me from my promise."

An instance showing how observing little folks are: A lady friend called the other day at a very inopportune time. In fact, I was in the midst of canning and making jelly. As I greeted her I said, "I am very glad to see you," and after seating her, I asked to be excused just a minute, and arranged my fruit so that it would not suffer.

What the World Wants



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The world wants a person's best, so says Louise Chamberlayne in the August Housekeeper. Artificial work, though it may seem to flourish for a time, can never produce excellent results.

A woman whom I once knew was struggling to sell some of her literary work, which, though carefully prepared, lacked the "spark" of originality to make it acceptable in editorial offices. In her own home this woman was a genius. She always had a way of her own to do things, a recipe for all sorts of delicious dishes, and a practical knowledge of household management that seemed to be inherited from a long line of old-fashioned housewives, for she had never had time to acquire it otherwise.

One day, in despair, she jotted down some "ways to do things" which almost all the household magazines are glad to have. She followed this article of practical work with another on old-time cooking, and, to her delight, both articles were accepted. "And I was trying to be imaginative when I can never be anything but practical," she sighed, "and what a delight to find the world wants to know of practical things!"

Lovely Costume.
A lovely summer costume noticed recently was of white linen, the skirt quite untrussed, the waist fastened, half to the left and half to the right, with pearl buttons. The neck line was round, and finished with a collar of fine embroidery and baby Irish lace, with a small black satin bow in the front. The woman wore a black hat of cloche shape, trimmed with a single broad quill.

A white Brussels lace veil and a black and white striped parasol added style and chic to a costume which was perfect in taste and simplicity.

The Woman Who Entertains

Dinner Giving.

The first consideration in dinner giving by a hostess should be her guest list. She must bring together congenial people, for that is a large working factor for or against the success of her dinner. The invitations for a function of this kind are sent out two weeks ahead. The guest list is not long, as there must be no crowding of chairs or table space. At least twenty inches should be allowed for each cover.

Having settled the questions of who and how many shall be invited, the next thing is the menu, the selection and planning of which involves, as an eminent authority on entertaining says, novelty, simplicity and taste, the trio of virtues that characterize the perfect dinner.

Dinner Table Decorations.
It is much wiser to err on the side

of simplicity in the matter of decorations, the simplicity of elegance and beauty. If a color scheme is decided upon, it should be carried out harmoniously. Candles with colored shades always add to the brilliancy of a dinner table. Decorated place cards are no longer in favor. Instead, a plain white visiting card is used for the purpose. Menu cards no longer obtain. The motif of the table decorations should be pleasantly reflected in the decoration of the dining-room. Thus having, to use a homely expression, everything thoroughly "cut and dried" beforehand, the hostess is free to meet her guests on the evening of her entertainment with an equanimity of manner which she will preserve throughout the evening.

All Work White.
You see that the whole set will not

take an immense amount of work, and for all ordinary occasions six of the larger dollies and six of the smaller ones will be sufficient. The larger ones are to be used under plates and the smaller ones under glasses or butter plates. People have so many different ways of setting their tables that it is difficult to say which is best. Just so long, however, as the table looks pretty, it makes very little difference whether or not it is in the height of style.

I should advise, particularly in a design of this kind, that all the work should be kept white, although, if you prefer, it will be possible to carry out the idea of the seashell by working the design in a delicate shade of pink. You must expect it to fade, however, with frequent laundering.

Dainty Frocks for Girl Wearers

A Pretty Dress and a Coat



Fashion Gossip

Mittens Much Worn.

At watering places and summer resorts generally mittens are much worn by smart people. Probably because they harmonize with the Louis fashions, do not hide gorgeous rings and are cool and comfortable. Satin cuffs, to which the woman of fashion has returned, are not very high, but have a decided point in front with tassels or fringe to ornament the fastening. Even though the cut of gowns accentuate more the curves than the straight lines of the figure, the general idea seems to be to adhere as closely as possible to pendant accessories.

The Ear Pendant.

The revival of the ear pendant has been brought about by the recent passion for the artistic, and also by the fact that there are many professional women who give up their lives to making their clients look their best at all times and in all places. To attain this end the expert will bring to her assistance every device yet discovered. She will recall the fillet of ancient gems, the dangling jewels of Cleopatra, the heavy girdle of Judith and the long trailing skirts first worn when Marguerite of France was the fashion dictator at the court of her royal father.

Made Doubly Sure.

But the sudden popularity of the ear pendant was made doubly certain by the advent of the hat with the turned-down brim. This strangely shaped affair makes some dangling ornament necessary, for the hat hides the hair and most of the features; so unless a pendant jewel marks the position of the ear there might be some doubt as to whether the important feature exists. Furthermore, the long straight lines of the empire and directoire may be wonderfully emphasized if a long pendant hangs on either side of midday's face. It seems to lengthen the line from the forehead to chin and to make the face appear oval when it may be somewhat too round.

Reasons for Importance.

Ear pendants, for all these reasons, are important, and it is well worth while to discuss for a moment their shape, size and construction. Pendants are made of jewels of many values, but the very handsome solitaire diamond pendant has been partly displaced by that of the more inexpensive semi-precious stones.

Pearls, on the other hand, while very valuable, are much worn, but usually they are used pearls set in a swinging ring or bar. They are very effective, and make an admirable contrast of a clear complexion, but they should not be worn upon the street with a tailored suit or a simple summer frock.

Tortoise-shell Pendants.

Among the novelties of the season are long pendants of cut tortoise-shell, which, unlike pearls, may be worn on all occasions; not by every woman, however, for the brunettes only should wear jewels of this type. Blondes will find their prototype in pendants of amber.

Other effective earrings which may be classed under the heavy, but too costly, amethysts for the blonde, coral for the brunette and jet for either one. These kinds are allowable for everyday wear. Turquoise matrix and baroque pearls are beautiful, but should be worn only when the wearer should not be worn save in the afternoon and evening.

A Pretty Novelty.

Little hollow gold balls to snap on over diamond earrings are a novelty not to be despised by the woman who wants to wear her diamonds when she goes away. She may want them with her, but she will not care to wear them when inappropriately gowned. To her this latest device in gold may prove most useful.

Dressmaking Hints

Threatened With Ribbon.

Some of the new, one-piece gowns of summer material are threaded below the line of the knees with a soft satin ribbon, which is tied a little to the side of the front. It is an effective finish for a simple gown of batiste or one of the numerous dainty Swisses.

When Sewing on Buttons.

When sewing buttons on frocks for little girls, let them be placed on the wrong side of the garment, and work the buttonholes upon the under side. This will keep the buttons hidden, and they will not catch in the hair and break it, nor will they mar the neatness of the fabric. One must be careful that the sewing of the buttons will not show upon the outside.

A Very Pretty Blouse.

For wear with the suit of tussor, a very pretty blouse may be made of silk handkerchiefs, masculine, of course, and if they are large, four will be quite sufficient. Cut one in half, and let the two hemstitched edges come together at the waistline. It is best to sew a band of insertion underneath these to hold the edges together and to make a finish for the fastening of the waist.

To make the front wide enough, pieces left from the other handkerchiefs or else of material to match may be used for underarm sections. The back is made of one entire handkerchief, and what is left may be used for sleeves. Anywhere that the finish is too severe a little insertion or lace edging may be used to soften the effect, and the same may form a collar and the finish for the sleeves.

In Making Petticoats.

In making frills of soft material, such as muslin, lawn, batiste or chiffon, a second gathering thread should be run in under the first. This makes the frill hang more evenly, and obviates the necessity for stroking with the needle.

Scalloped Petticoat.

When the French needlewoman scallops a petticoat for this season she cuts it after the very newest pattern—a close-fitting, sheath-like affair, with all unnecessary fulness seamed out of it from waist line to knees. To this is added a lower ruffle, finished with a regular buttonholed scallop in long, shallow half-moons. This very most simple of all the hand-made edges is just as well thought of in Paris as the most ornate of flounces, because it has never seen a sewing machine.

Home-Made Towels.

The careful housewife will find that she may have even an excess of towels at quite small expense if she will finish the ends herself, instead of buying the fringed or bordered towels. Fourteen yards of damask toweling will make one dozen towels, and six of these might be finished with hemstitching and the other six with a regular buttonholed scallop. Each towel may be cut forty-two inches long, which will leave ample room for either a hem or a neat scalloped finish.

—New Idea.